

COMMENT ON THE APPLICATION CONCERNING THE GENERIC
NAMES *CHUANGIA* WALCOTT, 1911 AND *SHANTUNGIA* WALCOTT,
1905 Z.N.(S.)635

(see vol. 37, pp. 62–64)

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In the above application, paragraph 6, p. 63, we said that Walcott, 1913, *Publs Carnegie Inst.*, No. 54, Research in China, vol. 3, pp. II, V, 6, 7, 10, 53, 147, 148, 250, 255, 369, acted as a first reviser as between the two spellings *Shangtungia* and *Shantungia* Walcott, 1905. We are grateful to Dr C. W. Sabrosky for pointing out to us that that is not the case under the letter of the Code, since Walcott, 1913, did not cite both spellings and explicitly choose one and reject the other.

Since we know of no later author who has strictly complied with the requirements of the Code, we therefore now state explicitly that, as between those two spellings, we choose *Shantungia* as the correct original spelling and reject *Shangtungia* as the incorrect original spelling.

COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED CONSERVATION OF *APHYTIS*
MYTILASPIDIS LE BARON, 1870. Z.N.(S.)2320

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(see vol. 39, pp. 73–76)

We are unanimously opposed to the suppression of *Agonioneurus albidus* Westwood, 1837, in favour of *Aphelinus mytilaspidis* Le Baron, 1870.

We are of the opinion that, although *mytilaspidis* Le Baron is a very well used name in the literature, use of the older valid name, *albidus* Westwood, would not cause undue confusion. We favour retention of *albidus* Westwood for the following reasons:

(1) The original type series of *albidus* Westwood, 1837, is still extant and the species is recognisable from the specimens of this series.

(2) The specific epithet, *albidus* Westwood, 1837, has to our knowledge not been linked with any other species of *Aphytis* and thus no confusion would result from its use as the valid name for *mytilaspidis* Le Baron, although it may result in a slight amount of inconvenience to workers in the field of biological control or ecology.

(3) The original type series of *mytilaspidis* Le Baron, 1870, is believed lost, but it is possible that it may be relocated. The possibility, however small, still exists that this material may represent a species distinct from *mytilaspidis* as now understood by Rosen & De Bach, 1979, and others.

If no genuine confusion will result, we are in principle against the retention of so-called 'better known' junior synonyms in favour of relatively less well known senior names. We are agreed that the use of the older name as valid in this particular and other similar cases may cause some initial inconvenience to field biologists, and they have our sympathies, but such inconvenience will certainly be short lived since the use of the older name will undoubtedly stabilise the nomenclature and the controversy will be forgotten in a very few years' time. It is possible that many unused names in insects, particularly in poorly worked groups such as Hymenoptera Parasitica, will later prove to be senior synonyms of relatively well known names. If this case, as proposed by Rosen & De Bach, is accepted, then it may lead to many more applications for suppression of older names in favour of those sentimentally favoured junior synonyms.

REFERENCE

- ROSEN, D. & DE BACH, P. 1979. *Species of Aphytis of the world (Hymenoptera: Aphelinidae)*. Israel Universities Press, Jerusalem, and Junk, The Hague, 801 pp., 1342 figs.

COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED SUPPRESSION OF *KINOSTERNON*
ALAMOSE AND *K. OAXACAE* PRITCHARD, 1979. Z.N.(S.)2339
(see vol. 39, pp. 212-213)

By the Secretary, International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

This application is supported by Professor Hobart M. Smith (*University of Colorado*), Dr James F. Berry (*Elmhurst College, Illinois*) and Dr John B. Iverson (*Earlham College, Indiana*). The purpose of the application is to ensure that the authorship of *Kinosternon alamosae* is attributed to Berry & Legler and that of *K. oaxacae* to Berry & Iverson.